

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 PM-07

NSC-07 SS-20 DRC-01 /128 W
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R 231250Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7209

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BLANTYRE 0935

E.O. 11652: DECLAS 1/31/75

TAGS: PFOR, MI, XA

SUBJ: PRESIDENT BANDA INVITED TO BRAZZAVILLE REGIONAL CONFERENCE;
MALAWI-AFRICA BROTHERHOOD STRESSED

REF: A. BLANTYRE 934

B. EMBASSY A-55, 7/13/74

1. PRESIDENT BANDA CALLED RARE PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 22 TO
INTRODUCE ROVING AMBASSADOR OF REPUBLIC OF CONGO EUGENE
MAUKOU WHO EXTENDED PERSONAL INVITATION ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT
NGOUABI FOR BANDA TO ATTEND BRAZZAVILLE REGIONAL
CONFERENCE AUGUST 26-SEPTEMBER 3. AMBASSADOR MAUKOU PRONOUNCED
EXTENSIVE EULOGY OF DR. BANDA AS ONE OF "FIRST BRAVE LEADERS"
OF AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE, COMPARABLE WITH KENYATTA AND NKRUMAH.
BANDA REPLIED WITH EQUALLY EXTENSIVE STATEMENT OF SELF-PRAISE,
STRESSING THAT HE HAD BEFRIENDED AND ASSISTED NKRUMAH AT TIME
WHEN NO ONE ELSE WOULD.

2. COMMENT: IN LINE WITH HIS VIEWS ON EVOLVING MOZAMBIQUE
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SITUATION (REF A) BANDA HAS IN RECENT WEEKS EMBARKED ON

INTENSIFIED CAMPAIGN TO STRESS BROTHERLY RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN NEIGHBORS AND HIS OWN ROLE IN HISTORY OF AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT. DURING TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS (REF B) AND SUBSEQUENTLY GOM MEDIA HAVE GIVEN THESE THEMES DRUMFIRE TREATMENT. STATEMENTS BY VISITORS SUCH AS PRESIDENT TOLBERT AND AMBASSADOR MAUKOU FALL NICELY INTO LINE WITH THIS EFFORT AND ARE BEING THOROUGHLY EXPLOITED BY PRESS AND RADIO.

3. IT IS STILL UNCERTAIN WHETHER PRESIDENT BANDA ACTUALLY WILL ATTEND BRAZZA CONFERENCE. IN RECENT YEARS HE HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO LEAVE MALAWI, HAVING LAST TRAVELLED ABROAD IN JANUARY 1972.
FARBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRAZZAVILLE REGIONAL CONFERENCE, INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, PANAFRICANISM, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BLANTY00935
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740199-0286
From: BLANTYRE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740727/aaaaawkz.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. BLANTYRE 934
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT BANDA INVITED TO BRAZZAVILLE REGIONAL CONFERENCE; MALAWI-AFRICA BROTHERHOOD STRESSED
TAGS: PFOR, OCON, OVIP, MI, XA, CF, (BANDA, H KAMUZU), (MAUKOU, EUGENE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005